(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) सरकार इन वस्तुओं का आयात करने के स्थान पर इन उपक्रमों द्वारा निर्मित वस्तुओं की खरीद करने के संबंध में क्या प्रयास कर रही है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री सलमान खुर्शीद) : (क) से (ग) : नई उदार निर्यात एवं आयात नीति, 1992-97 के तहत आयात की नकारात्मक सूची में शामिल मदों को छोड़कर अन्य सभी मदों के मुक्त रूप से आयात किए जाने की अनुमति है। इसलिए, किसी भी ऐसी मद का मुक्त रूप से आयात किया जा सकता है जो आयात की नकारात्मक सूची में शामिल नहीं है और जिसका उत्पादन गैर-सरकारी अथवा सरकारी उपक्रमों में हो रहा हो।

Increase in the Exports

1649. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the exports have increased during the first five months of the financial year 1992-93 as compared to the same period last year;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether imports have been expanded during the same period of the year 1992-93 as compared to the same period last year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what measures Government have taken or propose to take to expand exports, from India ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) and (b) According to the provisional figures India's exports during the first five months of the current financial year i.e. April-August, 1992 amounted to US 6993 million (Rs. 19985 crores), as compared to US 6686 million (Rs. 15040 crores) during April-August, 1991 thereby registering a growth of 4.6 percent. (In rupee terms, 32.9 percent).

(c) and (d) According to the provisional figures, India's imports during the first five months of the current financial year i.e., April-August, 1992 amounted to US $ 9295 million (Rs. 26562 crores), as compared to US $ 7605 million (Rs. 17108 crores), thereby registering a growth of 22.2 percent (In Rupee terms 55.3 percent).

(e) Several changes in trade policy were introduced since July, 1991 aimed at strengthening export incentives, eliminating a substantial volume of import licensing and rationalising the import tariff structure. Rupee has been made partially convertible to encourage generation of foreign exchange. These have been further consolidated in the new Export-Import Policy which, inter alia, aims to promote productivity, modernisation and competitiveness of Indian industry and thereby to enhance its export capabilities. The policy also seeks to promote efficient and internationally competitive import substitution and self-reliance under a deregulated framework for foreign trade. A short-term Action Plan for ensuring the revival of the export momentum has been formulated. Besides, 34 commodities have been identified as 'extreme focus' sectors aimed at value increase of 30% every year, in exports.

Export of East European Countries

1650. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what is the quantum of decline in India's exports to the East European Countries;

(b) what was the quantum of annual exports in dollar terms to East European Countries in 1990-91 and 1991-92;

(c) what was the value of exports in dollar terms upto September, 1992; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to offset the slump in trade with the rupee payment East European Countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) The quantum of decline in India's exports to the East European Countries including CIS, during April-August 1992 as compared to the corresponding period of 1991 is approximately US $ 387 million.

(b) The quantum of annual exports in dollar terms to East European Countries, including USSR/CIS, in 1990-91 was US $ 3253 million, and in 1991-92 US $ 1919 million.

(c) The value of exports to East European Countries, including CIS, from April-August 1992, as latest available, is US $ 341 million.

(d) Government have taken several steps to boost exports to these countries. They are :—

(i) Separate trade agreements and procols have been signed with the majority of the republics of the erstwhile Soviet Union.

(ii) Greater marketing thrust including more effective participation in Trade Fairs, Exhibitions, Buyer-Seller Meets etc., has been given in the changed economic environment.

(iii) Promotion of direct contracts at the commercial enterprises level, are being encouraged.

(iv) Greater emphasis is being given on new forms of cooperation, such as joint ventures.

(v) A liberal counter-trade mechanism has been put into place by the Ministry of Commerce enabling importers/exporters to buy commodities like certain types of fertilisers, non-ferrous metals, steel items, metal scrap and newsprint through the counter trade regime.

Special Import Licence Scheme

1651. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the special import licence scheme announced recently would benefit only large exporters;

(b) if not, the categories of exporters that would be benefited under the new incentive scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that under the new scheme, the exporters are forced to import;

(d) whether Government have received any representation requesting for reinstatement of the old system of cash compensatory support; and

(e) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) to (c) The special Import Licence Scheme is applicable to the following categories of exporters :—

(i) Deemed Exports;

(ii) Recognised Export House/Trading Houses/Star Trading Houses;

(iii) Manufacturers who have acquired the ISO 9000 (series) or the BIS 14000 (series) or any other internationally recognised equivalent certification of quality; and

(iv) Exports to Asian Clearing Union (ACU) countries under ACU mechanism.

These licences are freely tradeable in the market. Therefore, if an exporter does not want to make imports against the Special Import Licence, he can transfer this licence to any other person.

(d) and (e) Certain representations were received for continuing the scheme of grant of cash compensatory support on exports. The representations were examined and it was decided not to revive the CCS Scheme.